

February 3, 2012

Weekly Views

The Plainfield Correctional Facility donated over 350 cell phones to Sheltering Wings, a center providing emergency shelter to victims of domestic violence. Sheltering Wings will send the phones to a service that will rehabilitate them and return the usable ones to the shelter and will receive cash for each phone that is not usable. The donated phones were prohibited property that had been confiscated from offenders over the past few years.

The Community Corrections Advisory Boards of several counties were pleased to have Commissioner Lemmon meet with them this week so they could discuss their hopes and plans for the continued success of Community Corrections in their locales.

Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility held a GED graduation ceremony for five offenders. The graduation ceremony was attended by close family members. Superintendent Griffin stated it was a proud moment for the graduates and their families.

A bake sale was conducted and donations were collected for a Pendleton Correctional Facility Aramark employee who recently became seriously ill and has been hospitalized in intensive care at an Indianapolis hospital. Through the generosity of IDOC employees and contractual staff, \$250 has been raised to assist the family with medical-related expenses.

Superintendent Stanley Knight congratulates staff on their recent promotion at the Putnamville Correctional Facility! Doayne Houghton, Michael Ellis, William Hyatt, and Scott Rodgers were promoted to Correctional Sergeant. Randy Seats was promoted to Correctional Lieutenant, and Adam Cornelison was promoted to Correctional Training Officer III.

Ten potential recipients of graduating ICAN dogs visited the Indiana Women's Prison. Eight clients were matched with dogs and invited to participate in the March 2012 team training. Team training is a two week long training program that gives recipients of the dogs the tools to learn how to enhance their lives with the dog's skills and ability. (see photo right of Assistant Superintendent LaShelle Turner training an ICAN pup)

Team DOC had a small but tough group of participants in the NFL's Legacy Loop 5K. Commissioner is proud of those who sucked it up and faced the wind and cold to represent the Department at this historic event. Your next chance to join Team DOC is at the Polar Bear run/walk on Saturday, February 25th. The choice is yours: three miles, five miles, or the "doubler", all eight miles! Register now at www.indypolarbear.com. Not quite sure you want to be a polar bear, but don't want to miss out on the fun? Contact Lisa Salinas (lsalinas@idoc.IN.gov) about volunteer opportunities.



All four Indiana Department of Correction legislative initiatives have passed through the first half of this year's legislative session, as the Indiana General Assembly moves closer to Halftime. They include:

- HB 1204 Sex and Violent Offender Registry passed 92-0 in the Indiana House of Representatives
- HB 1365 Dual Juvenile and Criminal Jurisdiction passed 93-0 in the Indiana House of Representatives
- SB 0256 Correctional Professionals Assistance Fund passed 50-0 in the Indiana Senate
- SB 0322 Tort Immunity for DOC employees and Contractors passed 48-2 in the Indiana Senate

In connection with Super Bowl weekend activities, offenders at the Pendleton Correctional Facility were permitted to order "Super Bowl Snack Packs" consisting of a variety of assorted snack items along with a 20 oz Pepsi. This event was conducted by the facility's American Legion Organization. Offenders were also allowed to order wings and pizza from Papa John's Pizza. This fund-raising event was sponsored by the facility's PLUS program.

Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility Superintendent Linda Commons addressed employees during the quarterly staff assembly. She recognized recently promoted employees, employees that go the "Extra Mile" and those with perfect attendance. During the assembly, several staff members were recognized for their years of service with the IDOC. Quarterly Employee Awards were also presented. Officer Frank Bohannon was named Officer of the Quarter. School secretary Debbie Lee was named Non-Custody Employee of the Quarter. Program Director 2 Christian Blakey was named Supervisor of the Quarter. Employee of the Year award was presented to Administrative Assistant Natalie Walker. Congratulations to all!